

at night when Parvati was asleep and came away to the woods. Parvati awoke later and, missing Siva, wondered where he had gone, looked over the whole house, and not finding him went out in search of him. Siva had disguised himself as a huntsman of the forest tribes, but Parvati made him out from a distance and came up with speed. As the dried leaves of the forest crackled under her steps, Siva turned and saw that his wife had after all followed him and caught him. In disgust at his failure to escape her he said *Bandaleeke* (This lady has come). *Bandaleeke* was later shortened to *Bandalike* in pronunciation and the village built in the place got the name. Siva resigned himself to happy fate and he and his companion roamed the woods together thereafter till they felt inclined to go back to their heavenly abode.

Some of these stories seem to have a historical background. At Ballalarayanadrug, where the Nagar Queen Veerammaji went to escape from Haider, a sudden drop in the hill-side is pointed out and a story is told how some pregnant woman dropped from the top of the hill there and was killed. The story-teller generally adds that the cry of a little child and the voice of a mother comforting it can be heard there at night even now. Connected with Nijagal in Tumkur District there is a tragic story of a queen and her brother. There was a local chieftain here once and

he had two
wives, having married the second one
because the first
one bore no children. The junior queen
gave him
a son. She had a brother who had come
and stayed
in the palace. He was somewhat of a scamp
and mis-
behaved to some woman or other in the
town and was